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DE RUEHKO #1008 1200820
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 300820Z APR 09
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2687
INFO RUEHZN/ENVIRONMENT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COLLECTIVE
RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY 0607
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 5102
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 9083
RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 3802
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 1456
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 6140
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 7604
RUEHKS/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 4339
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 3514
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 4889
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC 8617
RUEAUSA/DEPT OF HHS WASHINGTON DC
RHMFIUU/DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY IA WASHINGTON DC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 001008

DEPT FOR OES/IHB AMBASSADOR LOFTIS
DEPT FOR EAP/J, EAP/EX, CA
USDA PASS TO APHIS, FAS FOR BURDETT
HHS PASS TO CDC
HHS FOR OGHA
DEPT PASS TO AID/GH/HIDN

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KFLU](#) [AEMR](#) [AESC](#) [CASC](#) [KFLO](#) [TBIO](#) [KSAF](#) [KPAO](#) [PREL](#) [PINR](#)

AMGT, MG, EAGR, JA

SUBJECT: MGSF01 APRIL 30 UPDATE ON JAPAN'S RESPONSE TO H1N1 OUTBREAK

REF: A) TOKYO 965; B) TOKYO 982; C) TOKYO 993

This Message is Sensitive but Unclassified. Please handle accordingly.

1. (SBU) Summary: No human cases of swine flu have been reported in Japan. The Health Minister said Japan remains at pandemic alert level one and will increase the number of "fever clinics" within hospitals, bolster antiviral stocks, and accelerate vaccine production. The Health Ministry instructed local health officials to report all cases bearing H1N1 symptoms to its central information center. The Agriculture Ministry announced blanket inspections on all live hog imports, but said the GOJ has no plans to test or ban imports of pork meat. End summary.

2. (U) As of April 30, 2009 1700 local time, no human cases of Type A H1N1 influenza have been reported in Japan.

3. (SBU) Officials at the Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare (MHLW) said quarantine officers are wearing protective suits when boarding flights arriving from H1N1 affected countries. Local officials said Sapporo and Fukuoka airport authorities are conducting enhanced health screening procedures on international arrivals. The Foreign Ministry confirmed Mexican citizens now require visas to enter Japan.

4. (U) In response to the WHO's decision to raise its pandemic alert to Phase 5, Health Minister Masuzoe told the press April 30 the GOJ remains at Stage One and will continue to implement measures according its pandemic action plan. Masuzoe announced the GOJ will increase the number of "fever clinics" within hospitals, increase antiviral stockpiles, and accelerate vaccine production.

5. (SBU) The MHLW announced it sent a notice to local governments April 29 with instructions for medical institutions to report to MHLW's infectious disease information center at the earliest stage

all cases bearing symptoms similar to H1N1 influenza. Local health stations are required to obtain virus samples from any such case to forward to the Japanese National Institute of Infectious Diseases for confirmation, according to an MHLW statement.

16. (SBU) Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF) officials said MAFF began inspections of all live hog imports April 30 as part of the GOJ's domestic H1N1 surveillance efforts. MAFF officials added the opposition Democratic Party of Japan may propose a ban on live hog imports. Japanese officials assured emboffs Japan has no plans to ban or test imports of pork meat. (Note: Japan imported \$248,000 in live hogs from the U.S. in 2008, mainly for breeding purposes. Annual U.S. pork meat exports to Japan total \$1.5 billion. End Note).

17. (SBU) Japanese companies continue to announce actions to minimize the movement of staff in Mexico. Kyushu Electric Power is repatriating families of staff in Mexico, according to local press reports.

ZUMWALT